



7.0 Plan Implementation and Maintenance

Implementation implies two concepts: action and priority. While this plan puts forth many worthwhile recommendations, the decision regarding which action to undertake first will be the initial issue each community faces. Committee members should not only account for priority when considering which task should be addressed first, they should also consider the issue of funding. Therefore, low or no-cost recommendations have the greatest likelihood of succeeding. An example would be updating the floodplain management ordinance to mandate two feet of freeboard. These efforts would lead to long-standing changes in vulnerability and can be initiated at very little cost, while simultaneously reducing flood insurance premiums.

Another important implementation mechanism that is highly effective but low-cost is taking steps to incorporate the recommendations, and equally important, the underlying principles of this Hazard Mitigation Plan into other community plans such as the Comprehensive Plan, capital improvement budgeting, economic development goals and incentives, and other such plans. Mitigation is most successful when it is incorporated within the day-to-day functions and priorities of government and development. This integration is accomplished by a constant, pervasive and energetic effort to network and to identify and highlight the multi-objective, “win-win” benefits to each program, the community and the constituents. This effort is achieved through monitoring agendas, attending meetings, sending memos, and promoting a safe, sustainable community.

Monitoring funding opportunities should be done simultaneously with the integration effort. Funding can be leveraged to implement some of the more costly recommendations. A bank of ideas on how any required local match or participation requirements can be met should be created and maintained. Being aware of when funding becomes available will allow the Committee to capitalize upon important opportunities. Funding opportunities that can be monitored include special pre- and post-disaster funds, special district budgeted funds, state or federal ear-marked funds, and grant programs, including those that can serve or support multi-objective applications.

With the adoption of this plan, the PHMPC will be converted to a permanent advisory body referred to as the Mitigation Coordinating Committee. This Committee agrees and commits to:

- Act as a forum for hazard mitigation issues,
- Disseminate hazard mitigation ideas and activities to all participants,
- Pursue the implementation of the high priority, low/no-cost Recommended Actions,
- Keep the concept of Mitigation in the forefront of community decision-making by identifying the recommendations of this plan when other community goals, plans, and



activities overlap, influence, or directly affect increased community vulnerability to disasters,

- Maintain a vigilant monitoring of multi-objective cost-share opportunities to assist the community in implementing the Recommended Actions of this plan for which no current funding or support exists,
- Monitor implementation of this Plan,
- Report on progress and recommended changes to the City/County Manager's Office, and
- Inform and solicit input from the public.

The Committee will not have any powers over City/County staff; it will be purely an advisory body. Its primary duty is to see the plan successfully carried out and to report to the City/County Manager's Office and the public on the status of plan implementation and mitigation opportunities in the Peninsula communities. Other duties include reviewing and promoting mitigation proposals, hearing stakeholder concerns about hazard mitigation, passing the concerns on to the appropriate entities, and posting relevant information on the community's website.

7.1 Maintenance

Plan maintenance implies an ongoing effort to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the plan, and to update the plan as progress, roadblocks, or changing circumstances are recognized. This monitoring and updating will take place through an annual review by the Committee and a five-year written update to be submitted to the state and FEMA Region III, unless disaster or other circumstances (e.g. changing regulations) lead to a different timeframe.

When the Committee convenes for the review, they will coordinate with all stakeholders that either participated in the original planning process, or have joined the Committee since the inception of the planning process. The goal will be to update and revise the plan. Public notice will be given and public participation will be encouraged. The invitation to participate will be extended via web-postings and press releases to the local media outlets.

The evaluation of progress can be achieved by monitoring changes in the vulnerability identified in the Plan. Changes in vulnerability can be identified by noting:

- Lessened vulnerability as a result of implementing Recommended Actions;
- Increased vulnerability as a result of failed or ineffective mitigation actions; and/or,
- Increased vulnerability because of new development.

The updating of the plan will be accomplished through written changes and submissions as the Committee deems necessary, and as approved by the governing bodies of each community.